

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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February 2, 1987

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 87-18

TO: ALL COUNTY GAIN COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DELAY OF REMEDIAL EDUCATION BY GAIN PARTICIPANTS

The purpose of this All-County Letter (ACL) is to direct county staff to provide assistance to Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) participants in making appropriate decisions regarding the delay of necessary remedial education as allowed under Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 42-772.53.

The State Department of Social Services recognizes the importance of education in preparing GAIN participants to obtain stable employment. No participant is to be discouraged from obtaining the required remediation before beginning other GAIN activities. Encouragement for obtaining remedial education is especially important when the participant has already delayed education and is reentering the GAIN Program due to loss of employment.

When the results of the screening tests indicate a need for remediation, but the participant objects to immediate participation in remedial education in favor of job club or supervised job search, the county should ensure that the participant is aware of at least the following factors:

1. Participation in job club or supervised job search generally requires basic skills in reading, writing, and English language to be beneficial.
2. Employment opportunities for persons who lack basic literacy or English language skills or a high school diploma or equivalent are generally limited to entry level jobs.
3. Jobs may be lost when employers discover that employees lack basic skills.
4. Promotional opportunities are limited for those who lack basic literacy or English skills or a high school diploma or equivalent.

If, after being apprised of the above factors, the participant still insists on delaying remedial education, the participant's decision must be honored. However, the county should consider shortening the job search period of job club

or supervised job search if it appears that a continuation of job search efforts would be fruitless due to the participant's lack of basic literacy or English language skills or a high school diploma or equivalent.

Questions regarding this ACL should be directed to the GAIN County Operations Analyst assigned to your county.

Carl B. Williams
CARL B. WILLIAMS
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cc: CWDA